

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 519

By Beck

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Steve Wariner upon his twenty-fifth anniversary as a member of the Grand Ole Opry.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should recognize those gifted artists who have experienced great success in the world of country music; and

WHEREAS, Steve Wariner, a four-time Grammy Award winner, will celebrate his twenty-fifth anniversary as a member of the Grand Ole Opry on May 11, 2021; and

WHEREAS, born in Noblesville, Indiana, on December 25, 1954, Mr. Wariner began playing music at the age of ten on a bass guitar and played drums in his father's band just a few years later; and

WHEREAS, after being spotted during a performance in Indianapolis by Country Music Hall of Fame member Dottie West, Steve Wariner moved to Nashville as a teenager to play bass in her band, and he was eventually signed to her publishing company as a songwriter; and

WHEREAS, in the 1970s, Mr. Wariner connected with the legendary Chet Atkins, who signed him to his first recording contract with RCA Records in 1977; he scored his first Top 40 hit, "Your Memory" in 1980, and followed it up with two more Top 10 hits, including "By Now" and "All Roads Lead to You," which became his first Number 1 record in 1981; and

WHEREAS, Steve Wariner enjoyed further success with a string of hits on MCA Records in the 1980s and in 1991 with Arista Records; he earned his first Grammy Award for Best Country Vocal Collaboration as a vocalist on the single "Restless" along with Vince Gill, Ricky Skaggs, and Mark O'Connor as a member of the New Nashville Cats; and

WHEREAS, signed to Capitol Records in 1998, Mr. Wariner produced and released his Grammy-nominated album, *Holes In The Floor Of Heaven*, which swept the Country Music

Awards and Academy of Country Music awards, winning both Song of the Year and Single of the Year for "Holes in the Floor of Heaven"; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wariner was inducted into the Grand Ole Opry on May 11, 1996, and he considers it one of the highest honors of his career, as he performed with both Bill Anderson and Chet Atkins on that special occasion; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Wariner has recorded more than twenty albums over his five decade career and earned fourteen No. 1 hits, thirty Top 10 singles, and three RIAA-certified Gold Albums while charting over fifty *Billboard* singles; and

WHEREAS, an award-winning songwriter, he has written hit songs for Clint Black, Bryan White, Keith Urban, and Garth Brooks, and his songs have been recorded by a host of artists, including Alabama, Kenny Rogers, The Statler Brothers, Conway Twitty, Bill Anderson, Don Williams, the Del McCoury Band, Ruben Studdard, and Bob Luman; and

WHEREAS, Steve Wariner has received many awards and accolades throughout his career; he has won four Grammy Awards, four CMA Awards, three ACM Awards, two TNN/Music City News Awards, a Christian Country Music Association Award, a CMA Triple Play Award, fifteen BMI Million-Air Awards, and the 2018 CRB Artist Career Achievement Award; and

WHEREAS, a recipient of the Minnie Pearl Humanitarian Award, Mr. Wariner is a member of the Musicians Hall of Fame, the Kentucky Music Hall of Fame, the National Thumbpickers Hall of Fame, and the Music City Walk of Fame and one of only five guitar players in the world to be given the Certified Guitar Player Award by Chet Atkins; and

WHEREAS, it is the dream of every country music artist to be a member of the Grand Ole Opry and perform on the stage of the Grand Ole Opry House, and it is most fitting that Steve Wariner be recognized on this special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TWELFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE

CONCURRING, that we honor and recognize Steve Wariner upon his twenty-fifth anniversary as a member of the Grand Ole Opry, commend his illustrious career in country music, and extend to him our best wishes for every continued success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.